



## OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **California receives significant increase in Homeland Security funds**

**SACRAMENTO** – California will see a dramatic increase in port security funding as well as millions more for transit security under allocations announced Friday by the federal Department of Homeland Security. In addition, the Riverside area is now eligible for homeland security funding with new guidelines also announced by DHS on Friday.

California's share of the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) for fiscal year 2008 (FY '08) increased to almost \$65 million dollars, up dramatically from \$32 million in 2007. The state's share is about one-sixth of the total national allocation of \$388 million dollars.

Funding from the Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) for California also saw a significant increase. California will receive more than \$41.5 million dollars in FY '08, up six million (\$6m) from \$31.5 million dollars in FY'07. In addition, transit agencies in San Diego and Sacramento will be eligible for a portion of \$38 million dollars in available grant funding.

Matthew Bettenhausen, Director of the California Governor's Office of Homeland Security, says the increased funding shows the Federal government realizes California faces risks unlike many other states. "It also means Washington, D.C. understands and recognizes the significant work that has been done so far and that we continue to do in our efforts upgrade the state's critical infrastructure and ultimately, protect the lives and property of Californians." Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and OHS leadership have been heavily involved in advocating Congress and DHS for California's fair share of this funding for port security, considering California ports handle nearly half the nation's containerized goods.

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also announced grant guidance for several other programs. Of note is the addition of the Riverside standard metropolitan statistical area (cities of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ontario) to the list of cities eligible for Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds. \$781 million dollars will be divided among the nation's urban areas under this program. Tier One cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco will compete for a portion of \$430 million dollars, while Tier Two cities (53 total, now including the Riverside area) will compete for a share of about \$352 million dollars.

The Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay areas are also eligible for additional funding this fiscal year (FY'08) under the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant program (RCPG).

“This additional program will certainly advance our mission and ability to deter, prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from any incident of terrorism, natural, or other man-made disasters,” said Director Bettenhausen.

**Specifically, the port areas of Los Angeles-Long Beach, San Francisco, and San Diego will receive \$64,822,000 million dollars combined for port security improvements.**

- **Los Angeles-Long Beach: \$36,390,481**
- **Bay Area (San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Stockton): \$25,533,655**
- **San Diego: \$2,898,611**

In addition Port Hueneme is eligible to apply for grant funding from a national total of \$19 million dollars.

**In mass transit grants California systems in the Bay Area and Los Angeles-Orange County received the following allocations:**

- **Bay Area \$28,259,722**
- **Greater Los Angeles / Orange County Urban Areas \$13,333,679**

Systems in San Diego and Sacramento are eligible to submit projects to compete for \$38.8 million in available funding nationwide for these smaller mass transit systems.

California has used such grant funding in the past for increasing the number of Urban Search and Rescue Teams, Swift Water Rescue Teams, enhancing and protecting critical infrastructure such as the Trans Bay tube, and Disaster Medical Assistance Teams that were of vital importance and help in last year's wildfires. The Governor's recent initiative with Telephone Emergency Notification Systems (TENS) for 13 California counties without such systems is another example.

Since its creation in 2003, OHS has administered over \$1.6 billion in homeland security grants. All of California's 58 counties have received homeland security funds to purchase equipment, provide training and develop strategies and plans to both prevent acts of terrorism and respond to emergencies.

For more information on grant guidance and programs go to our website at [www.homeland.ca.gov](http://www.homeland.ca.gov) and [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov).